



south carolina
STATE LIBRARY

More Monthly Newsletter

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A Message From Our Agency Director

We began our endeavors by creating a staff position in the Library Development Department focused on equity, diversity, and inclusion to assist public libraries with collection and program development centered on inclusivity. We added the Travel guide to SC African American cultural sites, held multiple training sessions on emergency preparedness for cultural heritage organizations and webinars related to Spanish speaking cultural awareness, and featured authors focused on diverse cultures, such as Dr. Rhondra Thomas, author of *Claiming Exodus: A Cultural History of Afro-Atlantic Identity* and others on our LibraryVoicesSC podcast. We added the [ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Black Newspaper Collection](#), a collection that provides genealogists, researchers, and scholars with online, easily-searchable first-hand experiences from 1893-2005. These are just a few of our actions, but we still need to do more.

Our next endeavor is to digitize documents related to cultural heritage that may not be captured in traditional formats through state agencies. We also plan to record oral histories from community elders, leaders, and members to add those to our collection as well. We plan to do this by partnering with both formal and informal cultural groups to digitize works that will be included in our state documents depository so that all South Carolinians have a preserved space in history. We have some things in the works that we are excited about, but we are a small staff and are asking for your help.

If you have items that you believe should be included in the State Library's historical collection and are interested in partnering with us, [please reach out](#). We want the State Library collection to be whole and represent all people in South Carolina so that we can be a resource for current and future generations. We can do even more together – we welcome your input.



Regards,

Leesa M. Aiken
Director, South Carolina State Library

UPCOMING events

Mindful Leadership | 03/10/2021

Discover how to use ancient Tibetan traditions, meditation, and mindfulness to improve your leadership style.

[READ MORE](#)

Precision in Communication | 03/23/2021

Increase productivity by learning a concrete and specific language that reduces misunderstandings and mistakes when communicating with coworkers.

[READ MORE](#)

Leading During a Crisis: Part 1 | 03/10/2021

Gain the necessary foundational understanding of crisis communication and how to navigate leadership responsibilities during these times.

[READ MORE](#)

Creating a Culture of Caring | 03/24/2021

Join [Active Minds](#), the nation's premier nonprofit organization supporting mental health promotion and education for young adults, for a look at practical approaches to help young adults thrive in the current climate.

[READ MORE](#)

Stronger Together



We joined forces with other state libraries to bring you the Southeast Collaborative Online Conference. By pooling resources with the State Library of North Carolina, Georgia Public Library, and the Library of Virginia, we can offer you three days of in-depth training in areas pertinent to library staff. Peruse the third week in March [on our events calendar](#) to view session titles. From optimizing virtual service to youth services, leadership, collection development, and accessibility, this conference has options for a variety of library staff.



LatinX Literature

There are hundreds of quality children's and YA books available that feature Latinx characters. From graphic novels to picture books, informational books, novels in verse, and beyond, [this webinar on March 25](#) highlights exciting Latinx youth books as well as helpful resources and strategies for selecting and using these books in the library.

Library Voices SC



Digital Dimensions

The value of digital collections is more vital than ever, with many libraries closed to the public because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Familiarize yourself with everything available by listening to our three-part podcast series on the [South Carolina Digital Library](#) (SCDL). Communications Director Dr. Curtis Rogers discusses all things digital with SCDL representatives from across the state. From William Henry Ravenel's [Fungi of Carolina](#) to [LGBTQ Life in the Lowcountry Oral Histories](#), this collection offers a diverse perspective on the Palmetto State's history. Tune in and listen on [Podbean](#), [Stitcher](#), [TuneIn Radio](#), or your favorite podcast app.

Cater to Your Patrons

Blend recipes with your favorite chapter books to add spice to virtual programs. [Register for one of the limited spaces](#) in our Cooks + Books hands-on webinar on April 8. Presenters from [Sticky Fingers Cooking](#) will pair *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan with story-inspired recipes



COOKS + BOOKS CHILDREN'S LITERATURE COOKING

for Percy's Perfect Personal Pan Pizzas, Green Greek God Salad, and Mt. Olympus Honey Lemon Yogurt Smoothies. This free, train-the-trainer-style session is only available live, so sign up today.

Little Hands Signing

Learn how to take storytimes to the next level by adding American Sign Language. Beginning March 30, [join us for a six-week course](#) demonstrating stories, songs, rhymes, and techniques you can use in programs for all ages. [Presenter Kathy MacMillan](#) bases each session's vocabulary on a seasonal theme. We will record and archive each session for those who are unable to attend live.



Find Your Funder

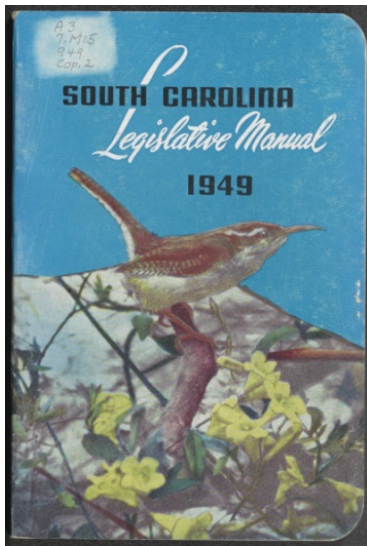
Let us help you find grant money for your nonprofit organization. We extended free access to the [Foundation Directory Online](#) database until the end of the year. Search for funding among the more than 190,000 profiles of private and independent foundations by either subject or geographic area. For additional help, [visit our grants page](#) and set up an appointment with our grants advisor. For grant questions that are outside the scope of the appointments, please send an email to grantspublic@statelibrary.sc.gov.



Create a Winning Proposal

Once you find a funder for your non-profit organization, let us help you apply for a grant. Our free, grant-writing webinar on March 31 will explain the basics of writing grant proposals. Uncover critical components to a proposal, including what funders want to know about your project. Also, look ahead and learn what to do once you receive the funds. These sessions are among our most popular. [Reserve your space today.](#)

Always Available



A collection of [South Carolina Legislative Manuals](#) from 1917 to the present day is digitized and available online. The annually published manual provides detailed information, including photographs and biographies of officials in the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the South Carolina State Government, the South Carolina Congressional Delegation, and State Officers. Additionally, the manual serves as a useful resource for information on State Senate and House of Representatives districts; Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives; State Agencies; State Symbols and Emblems; South Carolina County Officers; United States Government Departments in South Carolina; and historical information on South Carolina Governors, Lieutenant Governors, and Speakers of the House.



Strength in Numbers

When libraries partner with community organizations, they discover cost-effective ways to initiate innovative programs such as scavenger hunts and StoryWalks. While participating in this [webinar on March 23](#), you will learn ways to harness the power of community partnerships and keep patrons actively engaged with healthy habits while in the library, in nature, and in the community.



Bringing You the Basics

Customer service in libraries requires a unique skill set. If you are new to front-line library work or want a refresher of basic library skills, [register for this virtual training](#) on April 1. We will dive into finding your library's place in the community, addressing common patron issues and ethics questions.

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